

Claims

1 1. A method for enhancing flower induction in a strawberry plant, said method
2 comprising reducing the daytime temperature to which said strawberry plant is exposed by
3 an effective amount sufficient to enhance flower induction in said strawberry plant.

1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the daytime temperature to which said
2 strawberry plant is exposed is reduced from about 30°C or higher to about 25°C or lower.

1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the daytime temperature to which said
2 strawberry plant is exposed is reduced from about 30°C or higher to about 15 to 20°C.

1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the nighttime temperature to which
2 said strawberry plant is exposed is maintained at about 30°C or higher.

1 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein daytime temperature is reduced by a
2 means selected from the group consisting of artificially cooling the air and changing the
3 geographic location of said strawberry plant.

1 6. A method for enhancing flower induction in a strawberry plant, said method
2 comprising reducing the duration of the photoperiod to which said strawberry plant is
3 exposed by an effective amount sufficient to enhance flower induction in said strawberry
4 plant.

1 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the duration of the photoperiod is
2 reduced by about fifty percent.

1 8. The method according to claim 6, wherein the duration of the photoperiod is
2 reduced to a photoperiod of about six to ten hours.

1 9. The method according to claim 6, wherein the duration of the photoperiod is
2 reduced by a means selected from the group consisting of artificially controlling the duration
3 of the photoperiod and changing the geographic location of said strawberry plant.

1 10. A method for enhancing flower induction in a strawberry plant, said method
2 comprising:
3 a) reducing the daytime temperature to which strawberry plant is exposed; and
4 b) reducing the duration of the photoperiod to which said strawberry plant is
5 exposed.

6 wherein the daytime temperature and duration of the photoperiod are reduced by an effective
7 amount sufficient to enhance flower induction in said strawberry plant.

1 11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the daytime temperature to which
2 said strawberry plant is exposed to is reduced from about 30°C or higher to about 25°C or
3 lower.

1 12. The method according to claim 10, wherein the daytime temperature to which
2 said strawberry plant is exposed is reduced from about 30°C or higher to about 15 to 20°C.

1 13. The method according to claim 10, wherein the nighttime temperature to which
2 said strawberry plant is exposed to is maintained at about 30°C or higher.

1 14. The method according to claim 10, wherein the duration of the photoperiod is
2 reduced by about fifty percent.

1 15. The method according to claim 10, wherein the duration of the photoperiod is
2 reduced to a photoperiod of about six to ten hours.

1 16. The method according to claim 10, wherein the duration of the photoperiod is
2 reduced by a means selected from the group consisting of artificially controlling the duration
3 of the photoperiod and changing the geographic location of said strawberry plant.

1 17. A strawberry plant having enhanced flower induction produced by a method
2 selected from the group consisting of:
3 a) reducing the daytime temperature to which said strawberry plant is exposed by
4 an effective amount sufficient to enhance flower induction in said strawberry plant;
5 b) reducing the duration of the photoperiod to which said strawberry plant is exposed
6 by an effective amount sufficient to enhance flower induction in said strawberry plant; and
7 c) a combination of the methods in a) and b).

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